



**MINUTES
YAKIMA CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION
February 8, 2022
City Hall -- Council Chambers
5:00 p.m. Meeting conducted in person and virtually via Zoom**

1. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Janice Deccio, presiding, Councilmembers Matt Brown, Patricia Byers, Danny Herrera, Holly Cousens (attending remotely via Zoom), and Eliana Macias (present at 5:14 p.m.--attending remotely via Zoom)

Staff: City Manager Robert Harrison, City Attorney Sara Watkins and City Clerk Sonya Claar Tee

Absent: Assistant Mayor Soneya Lund (excused)

2. Public comment (allow 15 minutes)

None.

3. Black History Month proclamation

Mayor Deccio proclaimed the month of February 2022 as Black History Month. Ester Huey and Eric Silvers accepted the proclamation.

4. Review and update Council Rules of Procedure

City Attorney Watkins shared a PowerPoint presentation on recommended changes to the Council Rules of Procedure. Ms. Watkins proposed changes to Section G: Procedure - Debate. **MOTION: Byers moved and Deccio seconded to add the language to section G.** The motion carried by unanimous vote, Lund absent.

Council members discussed the public comment section I(4). **MOTION: Deccio moved and Cousens seconded to continue having public comments limited to what is on the agenda.** After further discussion, the motion failed by unanimous vote, Lund absent. Ms. Watkins stated the procedure will revert back to allowing public comment on any topic.

MOTION: Cousens moved and Brown seconded to have the maximum time of 35 minutes for public comment. The motion carried by unanimous vote, Lund absent.

MOTION: Byers moved and Herrera seconded to change the speaker time permanently to two and a half minutes. The motion carried by unanimous vote, Lund absent. After further discussion regarding proposed public comment changes, **MOTION: Herrera moved and Byers seconded to add the additional suggested changes to the Rules of Procedure.** The motion carried by a 5-0 vote, Macias temporarily absent and Lund

absent.

City Attorney Watkins reviewed the proposed changes regarding attendance. **MOTION: Byers moved and Brown seconded to accept all of the changes in terms of absences.** The motion carried by unanimous vote, Lund absent.

Council members discussed staff's recommendation regarding letters of support. **MOTION: Byers moved and Brown seconded to add this recommendation to the Rules of Procedure.** The motion carried by unanimous vote, Lund absent.

City Attorney Watkins reported there are no suggested changes to the censure section; however, this topic may need revisiting depending on a current case in the Supreme Court.

After additional discussion, **MOTION: Cousens moved and Byers seconded to make the remaining redline changes and bring back a final version for approval.** The motion carried by unanimous vote, Lund absent.

5. Adjournment

MOTION: Cousens moved and Byers seconded to adjourn to the next Council regular meeting on February 15, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The motion carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

READ AND CERTIFIED ACCURATE BY

DRAFT

COUNCIL MEMBER DATE

COUNCIL MEMBER DATE

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR